AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, as follows.

In the Claims:

1. (Original) Transdermal formulation comprising an opioid analgesic from the phenanthrene group or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof as active ingredient and an aloe composition as transdermal penetration agent.

2. (Original) Formulation according to claim 1, wherein the formulation is a patch provided with a covering layer.

3. (Previously presented) Formulation according to claim 1, wherein the patch is a formulation selected from the group of matrix type patch, reservoir type patch, multi-laminate drug-in-adhesive type patch, and monolithic drug-in-adhesive type patch.

4. (Previously presented) Formulation according to claim 1, wherein the formulation is a monolithic drug-in-adhesive type patch.

5. (Previously presented) Formulation according to claim 4, wherein the formulation comprises a backing, a pressure sensitive adhesive and a release liner.

6. (Currently amended) Formulation according to claim 1, wherein the adhesive comprises ~~or consists~~ of a component selected from the group of natural rubber; synthetic rubber; acrylic adhesive; polyvinylacetate; polydimethylsiloxane; ~~and~~ hydrogels, ~~especially~~ high molecular weight polyvinlpyrrolidone and oligomeric polyethylene oxide.

7. (Original) Formulation according to claim 6, wherein the adhesive is an acrylic adhesive.

8. (Currently amended) Formulation according to claim 6, wherein the rubber adhesive comprises ~~or consists of~~ a styrene-butadiene-styrene block copolymer or a styrene-butadiene block polymer.

9. (Currently amended) Formulation according to claim 7 ~~claim 8~~, wherein the acrylic adhesive comprises ~~or consist~~ of a polyacrylate.

10. (Original) Formulation according to claim 9, wherein the polyacrylate is selected from the group consisting of polybutylacrylate, polymethylacrylate and poly-2-ethylhexylacrylate.

11. (Previously presented) Formulation according to claim 4, wherein the adhesive contains a crosslinker.

12. (Previously presented) Formulation according to claim 1, wherein the analgesic is buprenorphine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

13. (Previously presented) Formualation according to claim 1, wherein the analgesic is buprenorphine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

14. (Previously presented) Formulation according to claim 12, wherein the extracting agent of the aloe extract or the vehicle is a vegetable oil.

15. (Original) Formulation according to claim 14, wherein the vegetable oil is hydrogenated oil.

16. (Previously presented) Formulation according to claim 14, wherein the vegetable oil is soybean oil.

17. (Previously presented) Formulation according to claim 1, wherein the formulation comprises another penetration agent in addition to the aloe composition.

18. (Currently amended) Formulation according to claim 17, wherein the additional penetration agent is selected from the group consisting of ethyl alcohol; isopropyl alcohol; octyl phenol; polyethylene glycol octylphenyl ether; oleic acid; poyethyline glycol (PEG), ~~especially~~ PEG 400; propylene glycol; N-decylmethyl sulfoxide; fatty acid esters, ~~especially~~ isopropyl myristate,

methyl laurate, glycerol monooleate, ~~and~~ propylene glycol monooleate; and N-methyl pyrrolidone.

19. (Currently amended) Formulation according to claim 1, wherein the formulation ~~composition~~ comprises a preservative~~, especially a preservative~~ selected from the group of alcohols, quaternary amines, organic acids, parabens and phenols.

20. (Currently amended) Formulation according to claim 1, wherein the formulation comprises a backing comprising ~~or consisting~~ of a material selected from the group consisting of polyolefin, polyester, polyvinylidene chloride, polyurethane, cotton or wool.

21. (Original) Formulation according to claim 20, wherein the backing is a polyolefine foil.

22. (Original) Formulation according to claim 21, wherein the foil has a thickness of 0.5 to 1.5 and especially 0.6 to 1.0 mm.

23. (New) Formulation according to claim 6, wherein the adhesive consists of a component selected from the group of natural rubber; synthetic rubber; acrylic adhesive; polyvinylacetate; polydimethylsiloxane; hydrogels, high molecular weight polyvinlpyrrolidone and oligomeric polyethylene oxide.

24. (New) The formulation of claim 8, wherein the rubber adhesive consists of a styrene-butadiene-styrene block copolymer or a styrene-butadiene block polymer.

25. (New) The formulation of claim 20, wherein the formulation comprises a backing consists of a material selected from the group consisting of polyolefin, polyester, polyvinylidene chloride, polyurethane, cotton or wool.